

the pawns of his phantasy. In the beginning, it is implicitly *assumed* that others will accept the assigned role. When this assumption is rudely shaken, the children try to enforce their wishes by threats or actual attack, or by bribes and appeals of one sort or another. As when Dan tries to take the mouth organ from Tommy on 24.2.25, or several of the children threaten " not to come to tea with you " or " not to marry you " " if you don't do " just what they want. The reality of these sanctions to the children themselves is shown by Dan's meekness to Priscilla's control in view of her threat " not to marry " him (12.3.26). " Priscilla again bullied Dan to do what she wanted, for example, to finish his sewing, by saying, ' I shan't marry you/ This morning she wanted him to sew, and he asked, ' Can I mend the floor ?' She replied, with a lofty air, as if disowning responsibility, ' If you like/ He said quickly, ' But then you won't marry me !' and so continued his sewing/

A specially interesting instance is that of Harold's and Paul's exploitation of the relationship of brotherhood to gain their will over Dan. On 18.6.25. " Dan said to Frank, ' Shall we put our bathing suits on ? ' Harold hearing this, and having been told by his mother that he must not do so, said, ' I won't let you come to tea with me if you do/ Dan said, ' I *shall* put it on/ Harold said, ' But *are* you my brother, Dan ? ' Dan replied, ' Yes/ Harold said, Then don't put your bathing suit on/ " Neither Harold nor Paul was really Dan's " brother". The word has to be taken in some moral sense, as a way of behaviour—being loving or peaceful or considerate. And it suggests, of course, that Paul and Harold had themselves been told to " behave like little brothers", or "you mustn't speak so to your

brother"—

or some similar exploitation of the relationship by an adult.

The situations where one child will play happily and considerately with the others so long as he is the recognised

leader, or has the superior part, would seem to be less ego-

centric than the naive subordination of others to the position

of mere pawns in one's private game, or the attempt to cow

or cajole them into accepting this role. Frank, for example,

could not be said to be merely exploiting the other children

when he acted as the leader in a dramatic game. He taught

them and led them most satisfactorily and charmingly, and

gave them all real functions. But he could not bear to take